1:Stanford U. S-4,5 1956 AF15 East China AF15

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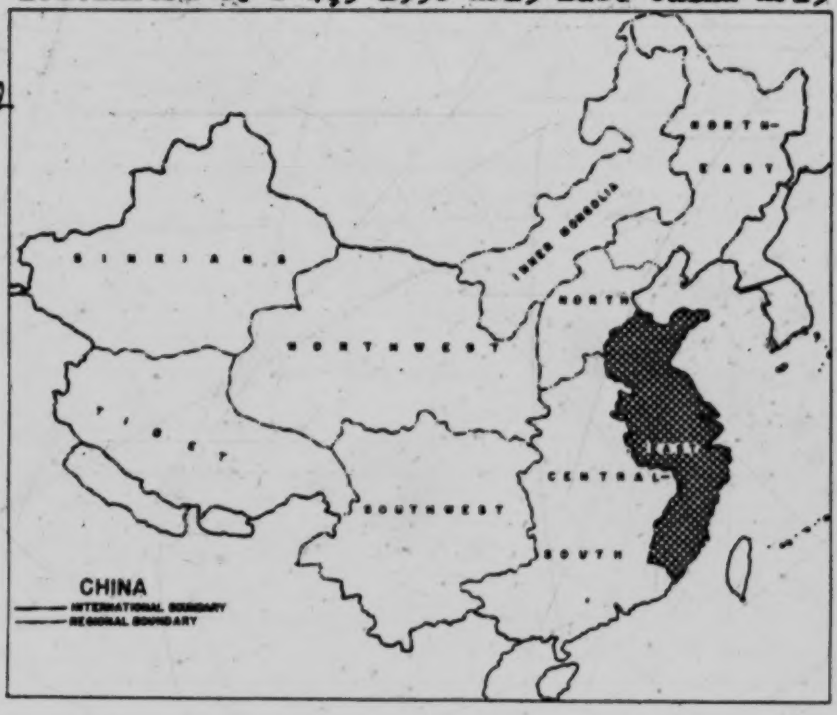

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Annex "A," Subparagraph 1a,
Sociological Background
GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

131 East China[1] lies between 27-28° North
162 latitude and 115-23° East longitude. It is composed of the provinces of Shantung, Kiangsu, Anhwei, Chekiang, and Fukien. The region covers 607,000 square kilometers (230,000 sq. mi.), or about six per cent of China's total territory, and supports 162,500,000 people, well over one-fourth of China's population. This amounts to an average of 269 persons per square kilometer (705 per sq. mi.).[2]

TOPOGRAPHY

133 The region of East China is higher on the southwestern side, and most of the mountains cluster in the southern portion. The northern and central sections are mainly alluvial plains intersected by a network of rivers. Many of the major rivers flow through lakes and lie across the land like strings of pearls. In fact, there is such a large number of waterways flowing through the region that the sampan is the most common means of transportation.

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1. See chapter on "Government Structure" for political subdivisions.

2. Ch'u Shao-t'ang, Hsin Chung-kuo Ti-li [The Geography of New China], Shanghai, Ta Chung-kuo t'u-shu-chü, 1953, p. 40.

2: Murphy G-4 (no date) 1953 AF15 East China AF15

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Map 1. East Asia, showing provinces and major cities and rivers of China. Dates refer to the opening to foreign trade as treaty ports of the cities so indicated.

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of the river bed indicate an average of about one foot added overall to the elevation of the bed at the river's mouth in each twenty-year period, or about one mile added to the coastline in each sixty-year period.[1]

On this basis, the site of Shanghai would have been on the seacoast about 500 B.C., an empirical estimate which agrees with the record of Chinese history. All cities in the delta area east of the line of Sungchiang (map 5) for which there are adeqaute records were founded after the third century A.D.[2] Records of the Eastern Han dynasty (25 A.D. to 220 A.D.) speak of Kunshan, now 80 miles from the sea, as the seaport of Soochow in the second century A.D., but Shanghai has served as Soochow's port since about the fifth century A.D. Tsungming Island in the Yangtze estuary, according to the official gazetteer of the island, first emerged as a habitable sand spit in the tenth century A.D. By the thirteenth century it was sufficiently densely populated to be made a separate *hsien* (county), and at present measures approximately 43 by 8 miles.[3]

Building and Drainage

The material on which Shanghai rests is thus totally unconsolidated and presents serious problems for building. An average vertical section shows silt from the surface to about 20 feet, sand to 300 feet, and gravel mixed with sand and silt to about 1000 feet, where some consolidated conglomerate is reached. The water table lies between five and eight feet below the surface of the ground.[4] It may be assumed that before the draining and filling done by the foreigners since 1843, the water table was considerably higher, and that even before 1843 the canals dug by the Chinese provided enough drainage to keep the water table lower than it would otherwise have been considering the soil and elevation of the site.

Foreigners were discouraged to find in 1875 when a bridge was built across the mouth of Soochow Creek* that one blow from the small pile driver employed buried the pilings out of sight in the

* "Soochow Creek" is the name given by foreign residents to the Woosung Chiang, originally a much larger stream, which drains into the Whangpoo at Shanghai and connects the city with Soochow, some sixty miles inland. In the interests of clarity and consistency it will hereinafter be referred to as Soochow Creek, the name by which it has most generally been known in Shanghai itself.

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Location

Shanghai's Hinterland

"The first and most natural root of a great city is the labour and populousness of the adjacent country, which supplies the materials of subsistence, of manufactures, and of foreign trade." [1] Shanghai is a great city primarily because it stands at the apex of the most fertile and populous area of comparable size anywhere in the world, the lower Yangtze basin.

The Yangtze watershed totals 750,000,000 square miles, or half of China proper, and has a population of approximately 200,000,000. The section of the river's basin which we may call the fertile triangle, bounded by Chinkiang, Hangchow, and Shanghai, an area of about 20,000,000 square miles, has an estimated population of 40,000,000, or an overall average of about 2,000 inhabitants per square mile. Nearly 80 per cent of the total land area is cultivated (map 10), and this region stands out as one of the three most widely cultivated in China (the Red Basin of Szechuan and the north China plain being the other two). Nodes of commerce are thickly scattered over the fertile triangle, which contains three cities of over half a million population (Hangchow, Soochow, and Shanghai — map 5). The Yangtze delta supports by far the densest single concentration of population in China for an area of similar size (map 7). The river's course is marked by successive clusters of settlement, terminating westward in the densely peopled Red Basin of Szechuan.

Of the other major cities of the lower Yangtze basin, Hangchow, Soochow, and Nanking were all at one time imperial capitals, and all have remained important commercial and industrial centers. Hangchow and Soochow are still among the three or four leading cities in China in silk reeling and weaving, and both act as central places for the surrounding rice and silk areas of the delta. Nanking

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